

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02165 241614Z
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-01 DHA-02 SSO-00
/019 W

-----241617 029475 /44

O 241539Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9499

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (LEHMANN, MANFRED R.)

SU: W/W MANFRED R. LEHMANN

REF: STATE 039104, 039116 AND PREVIOUS.

1. LAWYER RICHARD SPRADLIN LEARNED EVENING OF FEB 23 FROM HIGHLY PLACED NIGERIAN HE PREFERRED TO LEAVE UNNAMED THAT LEHMANN BEING HELD BY NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION. IT WAS INDICATED TO SPRADLIN THAT INVESTIGATION IN FINAL STAGES AND LEHMANN EXPECTED TO BE DEPORTED FROM NIGERIA SOON IF NO FURTHER ACTIVITY DEVELOPS.

2. NIGERIAN CONTACT, WHO SAID TO BE QUOTE HEAD OF CID AND SECURITY UNQUOTE TOLD SPRADLIN THAT LEHMANN WAS PICKED UP BY CID IN ALLEGATION OF LOCKHEED TYPE BRIBE BY DISGRUNTLED BUSINESS ASSOCIATE. CID INVESTIGATOR FOUND SOUTH AFRICAN VISAS IN LEHMANN'S PASSPORT AND PERSONAL PAPERS IN HIS POSSESSION INDICATING CONNECTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA. SINCE LEHMANN HAD BEEN DEALING WITH NIGERIAN MILITARY ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS MATTERS, CID FEARED COMPROMISE AND TURNED LEHMANN OVER TO NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION.

3. SERIOUS PROBLEMS WERE CAUSED BY LEHMANN GETTING THE SUPPOSEDLY UNKNOWN TELEPHONE NUMBER 21901 TO HIS WIFE AND HER DIRECT CALLS TO THAT NUMBER FROM THE U.S. SHE ALSO GAVE NUMBER TO SWEDISH AND AMERICAN EMBASSIES.

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4. ADDED PROBLEMS ACCORDING TO SOURCE WAS SUDDEN FLURRY OF TELEXES AND TELEPHONE CALLS, MOST INTERCEPTED AND MONITORED, WHICH MRS. LEHMANN MADE TO BRIG. GEN. ASHIDA, OTHER HIGHLY PLACED NIGERIANS AND THE AMERICAN AND SWEDISH EMBASSIES.

5. SPRADLIN'S SOURCE BELIEVED INVESTIGATION IN FINAL STAGES IF

NOTHING MORE DEVELOPS. SPRADLIN LED TO BELIEVE THAT OTHER SIDE OF STORY COUNTER ACTING BRIBE ALLEGATIONS BEING TOLD WHICH WILL RESULT IN INVESTIGATIONS OF NIGERIANS INVOLVED.

6. SPRADLIN HAS CABLED WARNKE'S OFFICE OF HIS ARRIVAL AND REQUESTED ASSOCIATES TO REASSURE CLIENT AND ASK RESTRAINT ON FURTHER TELEXES AND PHONE CALLS FOR THE MOMENT, SPRADLIN INTENDS TO REMAIN IN LAGOS AND HOPES TO ACCOMPANY LEHMANN TO U.S.

7. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR AND CONSUL ADVISED OF CIRCUMSTANCES NIGHT OF FEB. 23 AND AGREED WITH SPRADLIN TO USE SWEDISH CONSULATE N.Y. AND SWEDISH EMBASSY LAGOS AS CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR WILL CONTINUE DIPLOMATIC INQUIRIES THROUGH MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS UNTIL LEHMAN RELEASE OR DEPORTATION.

8. SPRADLIN REPORTED AT 2 PM FEB 24 THAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM SPANISH NATIONAL HELD BY SECURITY FOR 13 DAYS FOR TAKING PHOTOS AND CONSULAR OFFICER INFORMED FRENCHMAN HELD FOR ONE WEEK BY SECURITY FOR TAKING PHOTOS THAT LEHMANN HAS BEEN SEEN AND IS WELL AND BEING TREATED IN ACCORDANCE GENEVA CONVENTION AT IKOYI DETENTION CENTER.

9. SPRADLIN REQUESTED THAT PAUL WARNKE BE INFORMED AT WASHINGTON LAW FIRM TEL: 298-8686. HE ALSO FELT IT UNWISE TO GIVE MORE THAN FACT THAT LEHMANN BEING WELL TREATED TO MRS. LEHMANN FOR FEAR OF COMPROMISE OF SOURCE IN LAGOS. MRS. LEHMANN'S MOST RECENT EFFORTS INVOLVE TELEPHONE CALL TO SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER WITH REQUEST TO CALL NIGERIAN MINISTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS GARBA ABOUT HUSBAND.
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
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SAS ID: 3243080
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Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040901
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TAGS: CASC, (LEHMANN, MANFRED R)
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